

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Crown Copyright documents reproduced by courtesy of The National Archives, London, England.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

The National Archives give no warranty as to the accuracy, completeness or fitness for the purpose of the information provided.

Images may be used only for purposes of research, private study or education. Applications for any other use should be made to The National Archives Image Library, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU.

EASTERN

F.O.
371

1948

PALESTINE

FILE No. 4

pp 724 - 935

68529

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E

2

E 724

17 JAN 1948

1948

ELECTIVE

Registry
Number

E724/4/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

New York.

Dated

122

Received
in Registry

16 Jan

17 -

Information transmitted French Immigration
Commission has submitted list of Frenchmen American
citizenship immigration, and list, out of passport
copies, who had obtained such New
York by January 14 Jan.

Last Paper.

653

(Minutes.)

References.

68529

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Walkeron. B.O.
washed cab off.
M.I. 3a
M.O.H.
Acolmby
D.M.

Jan 19

8, S.M. Stanton B.O.

Jan 19

S.M. Mess. P.T.O.

(Action
completed.)

9 Feb 25/

(Index)

26/4/44

Next Paper.

743

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Tel. New York. 263
 Rptd W. Van 729

Jan 19

8. Weather on CO.
Landed Cab off

W 1.39

1404

Admty

A.M. on E798
Jan 21st

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE									
1	2	3	4	5	6				
		1				2			
<i>Reference:-</i> FO 371 / 68529						COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON			

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]
Cypher/OTP WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 122

D. 8.48 p.m. 16th January, 1948

16th January, 1948

R. 2.35 a.m. 17th January, 1948

Repeated Jerusalem,
Washington Saving

E 172

IMMEDIATE

GIANT

17 JAN 1948

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 122 January 16th
repeated Jerusalem and Saving to Washington

SECRET

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Trafford Smith.

1. Commission sent in this evening following
"Provisional Questions concerning immigration" for answer
presumably next week although no date has yet been fixed:

(1) what are the plans of the Mandatory Power regarding
immigration prior to the termination of the mandate and
particularly with respect to the present quota of 1,500
Jewish immigrants per month?

(2) What are the plans of the Mandatory Power with
regard to the recommendation in paragraph A.2 of part I of
the Assembly's resolution which reads as follows:

"The Mandatory Power shall use its best endeavours to
ensure that an area situated in the territory of the
Jewish State, including a seaport and hinterland adequate
to provide facilities for a substantial immigration,
shall be evacuated at the earliest possible date and in
any event not later than 1st February 1948".

(3) Would ships carrying unauthorised Jewish immigrants
be prevented from going to Tel Aviv and landing there in the
period between 1st February 1948 and the termination of the
mandate?

(4) Does the Mandatory Power intend to transfer all
Jewish immigrants presently detained in Cyprus to Palestine?
If so, when and under what conditions? (Within the
existing quota or otherwise? If within the quota, in
what proportion?)

2. I should propose to draft answers on the following
lines subject to your comments:

(1) The present immigration policy (quota of 1,500 a
month) is to be maintained until termination of the mandate.
(If you consider it desirable to give commission any
information as to breakdown of current quotas and/or

mortgaging.....

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

4



10

4632

—

2

as

100

11

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1			2		
<div> <div>FO</div> <div>371 / 68529</div> </div>					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Registry
No.

~~Top Secret~~
Secret.
~~Confidential~~
~~Restricted~~
~~Open~~

Draft.

IMMEDIATE.

TELEGRAM

Telegram. *U.K. Del.*

No. *263* *New York*

(Date) *Jan 19*

Repeat to:—

Jerusalem and
Washington
(Seymour) *729*

~~Ex-Clas.~~
~~Conf.~~
Cypher.

Distribution:—

World Org.

Copies to:—

OUT FILE

RECEIVED
F.O.
194

Immediate

Despatched

M.

Sent

U.K. DELEGATION,
NEW YORK

Addressing U.K. Delegation, New York, telegram
no 263 of Jan 19, inquired for information to
Jerusalem and Washington
your telegram no.

Following for Trafford Smith from

Martin, Colonial Office.

→ Your telegram No. 122. Paragraph 2.

1. Agree. It is not desirable to give information about mortgaging arrangements for children since we do not wish to have to admit that in fact we are mortgaging quotas beyond 15th May. No objection to saying that 750 certificates a month devoted to Cyprus half the remaining 750 (after deduction of small number for statutory requirements) devoted to parents and minor children of people now in Palestine, 25 each month to D.P.'s in the French zone of Germany, 25 to D.P.'s in the British zone of Austria, the balance to D.P.'s in the British zone of Germany.

2. F.O. telegram No *225* contains guidance on this point.

3. Agree.

4. Suggest that you reply that H.M.G. have already announced that they cannot have illegal immigrants on British territory after the military withdrawal and that our delegation in New York are charged with negotiating with the U.N. Commission in order to see that this is arranged. ~~We do~~

not

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:—					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

~~not ourselves propose to approach the Jewish~~
~~Agency and await the proposals of the U.N.~~
~~Commission for dealing with this problem.~~ You
 might add that H.M.G. will be willing to
 release from detention the two PAN ships now
 in Cyprus and that we understand the Jewish
 Agency would be willing to operate these ships
 for clearing the camps after 15th May.

W.B. 17/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

6
[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

Secret.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 263.

D: 10.40.p.m. January 19th. 1948.

January 19th. 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Washington No. 729.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

GIANT

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation, New York,
telegram No. 263 of January 19th, repeated for information
to Jerusalem and Washington.

Your telegram No. 122. Paragraph 2.

Following for Trafford Smith from Martin, Colonial
Office.

1. Agree. It is not desirable to give information about mortgaging arrangements for children since we do not wish to have to admit that in fact we are mortgaging quotas beyond 15th May. No objection to saying that 750 certificates a month devoted to Cyprus half the remaining 750 (after deduction of small number for statutory requirements) devoted to parents and minor children of people now in Palestine, 25 each month to Displaced Persons in the French zone of Germany, 25 to Displaced Persons in the British zone of Austria, the balance to Displaced Persons in the British zone of Germany.

2. Foreign Office telegram No. 225 contains guidance on this point.

3. Agree.

4. Suggest that you reply that His Majesty's Government have already announced that they cannot have illegal immigrants on British territory after the military withdrawal, and that our delegation in New York are charged with negotiating with the United Nations Commission in order to see that this is arranged. You might add that His Majesty's Government will be willing to release from detention the two PAN ships now in Cyprus and that we understand the Jewish Agency would be willing to operate these ships for clearing the camps after 15th May.

---000---

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference -					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

27

E

E 743

1948

PALEST

19 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

16745/1/51

FROM

11.1.48

No.

11.1.48

Dated

Received
in Registry

11.1.48
19

U.N. Political Commission, Re. Palestine
Transmit copy of letter from U.N. Commission to
the Government of the U.K. in reply to the letter
of 11.1.48. Also copy of the letter from the
U.N. Commission to the Government of the U.K. dated
11.1.48. The letter is appended to the letter from
the U.N. Commission to the Government of the U.K. dated
11.1.48.

Last Paper.

724

(Minutes.)

U.N. Political Dep.

11.1.48

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

11.1.48

(Index.)

11.1.48

Next Paper.

168

26513 F.O.P.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

8

New York.

British Delegation to the
United Nations,
New York

19 JAN 1948

Reference to previous correspondence:

Our tel. N-53 of 9th Jan.
With reference to Secretary General's telegram
Description of Enclosure. attached.

Name and Date.

Subject.

Copy of letter from
Sir Alexander Cadogan
to His Excellency,
M. Trygve Lie,
New York.

Appointment of Sir
Alexander Cadogan to
furnish information
to the Commission on
Palestine.

10th January, 1948.

(Copy sent to Washington and Jerusalem)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

Reference:-
FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No.6
(38/3/48)

January 10, 1948

Sir,

With reference to your telegram No.65 of to-day's date regarding the proceedings of the United Nations Commission on Palestine, I have the honour, under instructions from my Government, to inform you that I have been designated as their representative to furnish all appropriate information and assistance to the Commission in the discharge of its functions.

I shall be assisted by the following Alternates:

Mr. Trafford Smith, Colonial Office, London
Mr. J. Fletcher-Cooke, High Commissioner's Office,
Jerusalem.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's Obedient Servant,

SOD. A. CADOGAN

His Excellency,
M. Trygve Lie,
Secretary-General,
United Nations,
Lake Success, N.Y.

9

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				

Reference:-
FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

COPY

LAKE SUCCESS 9 417P

The Permanent United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations
61st Floor 350 Fifth Avenue, N.Y.

65 Kindly bring following to attention your Government:

Begins:

Have honour inform you that at its first meeting 9 January
United Nations Palestine Commission adopted following resolution:
"The United Nations Palestine Commission resolves that the Secretary-
General of the United Nations on behalf of the Commission promptly
extend to the Mandatory Power in Palestine an invitation to designate
such representatives as it may determine who shall be available
to the Commission for such authoritative information and other
assistance as the Commission may require in the discharge of its
functions under the resolution of the General Assembly on the
Palestine question. Similar invitations shall be extended for the
same purpose to the Arab Higher Committee and The Jewish Agency"
in accordance with terms this resolution Government of United Kingdom
is hereby invited designate such representative or representatives
as it may deem suitable for purpose indicated and promptly to communicate
to me names person or persons designated for transmission to Commission.

Trygve Lie, Secretary-General.

10

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E

E 768

19 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

Last Paper.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

PALMIST

Franchise Council on Jerusalem

Transmits copy of note prepared for
meeting held in Jan. 1948. The note
concerned with work of Franchise Council on
Jerusalem, is a partment of General
Instructions to Lord Burns, Rep. of
10. year.

(Minutes.)

b.v. 24/1

H3 19/1

In P.P. J.P. Hannon GPO. L. W. Walker

H3 20/1

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-
FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON



SECRET

The Church House,
Gt. Smith Street,
London, S.W. 1.

January 16, 1948.

My Reference 75872/154/26.

Your Reference

E 768

19 JAN 1948

My dear Bailey,

I enclose a copy of a note prepared in the Colonial Office of the meeting here on the 14th January at which we discussed various problems connected with the work of the Trusteeship Council on Jerusalem. Perhaps you will let me know if you have any comments on the note.

I am sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to Shannon, Commonwealth Relations Office, who may also have some comment to offer.

Yours truly,
W.A.C. Mathieson

(W.A.C. Mathieson)

H. BAILEY, Esq., CBE.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
2					
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Mr. Llan Burne	Colonial Office
Mr. Martin	-do-
Mr. Peyton	-do-
Mr. Galsworthy	-do-
Mr. Mathieson	-do-
Mr. Wright	Foreign Office
Mr. Beeley	-do-
Mr. Harmon	Commonwealth Relations Office (For Item 1 only).

The meeting took note of telegram No. 221 from New York to Foreign Office which stated that Mr. Gerig had told Mr. Gibson that Mr. Wyckmans of Belgium was not willing to be considered for the governorship, and that this meant that all the persons whose names had been mentioned in informal talks between Mr. Sayre and Sir Alan Burns were now unwilling to be considered. Sir Alan Burns said, however, that he would like to have a few names in reserve to put up as alternatives if some unacceptable name were suggested in New York. In discussion it was agreed that D.M. or Dominion nationals should be eliminated, although there might be less objection to a New Zealand candidate if one were proposed. If we were to support a Dominion candidate the views of Dominion Governments would

/have

CRO 1/10/1900
1/10/1900
1/10/1900

have to be taken into account. It was also agreed that there was no necessity for the Governor to be a Christian. It was agreed that the appointment of a United States citizen would be undesirable. This process of elimination led to consideration of the smaller European states. It was thought that objections might be raised to the appointment of a Dutch national on account of that country's colonial reputation at the present time, but it was agreed that if the Dutch could produce a first-class man he might possibly be found acceptable to the Trusteeship Council. The appointment of a Norwegian national would be undesirable on account of the subservience of Norway to Russia. Foreign Office agreed to explore the possibility of finding a wise candidate and Sir Alan Burns undertook to write to Mr. Vyckmans of Belgium to explore the possibility of his being pressed successfully to accept the appointment. Notwithstanding the position of France in relation to the Middle East, it was agreed that if a French national with suitable experience were forthcoming, such an appointment would be a satisfactory solution. Meanwhile further examination should be made of the possibility of finding a candidate from one of the smaller European countries, who could either be a civilian or a prominent military man.

Item 2. Instructions to Sir Alan Burns on the attitude he should adopt at the meeting of the Trusteeship Council on the 9th February.

Sir Alan Burns explained that it would be hardly possible for him to adopt a passive role on the Trusteeship Council. He wished authority to fight in public for adherence to the draft Statute as it

/emerged

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	2	1
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

three

15

emerged from the working committee. He could see that it was probable that the Jews, who were to be allowed to appear before the Council, would violently oppose certain points in the draft, notably the requirement regarding residence. Mr. Right stated that in the foreign secretary's view the overriding consideration must be to avoid exposing us to any subsequent allegation that the statute was of U.N. origin or inspiration; subject to this, the benefit of our knowledge and judgment should be made available to the Council on this question. Consequently if certain points seemed likely to go wrong, the U.N. representative should take a strong line to keep them right, and must feel himself free to fight on any essential point of the draft statute.

Sir Alan Burns expressed himself as satisfied with this directive and asked specifically if the instructions to the governor which were to form an annex to the statute and were based on British Colonial precedent could be allowed to go forward. He explained that they dealt solely with administrative detail and had no political content. Mr. Right agreed that the instructions could go forward. The point was made that it might be desirable to arrange for the rapporteur to introduce these instructions by saying that the working committee had explicitly asked U.N. representatives to furnish a model for them.

Item 3. Referendum after 10 years.

The Bishop in Jerusalem had written to Sir Alan Burns drawing attention to the vague phrasing of section 3 of Part III (Jerusalem) of the

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

four

16

Plan for Palestine approved by resolution of the General Assembly. The relevant sentence reads:-

"The residents of the City shall be then (after 10 years) free to express by means of a referendum their wishes as to the continuation or modification of the regime of the City. If expressed by a majority of two-thirds their wishes will be duly considered."

The bishop stated that as phrased this might imply that the international character of the City could be destroyed as a result of the referendum and that this possibility would lead to 10 years of strife in the City. Mr. Leelay explained that the wording of the Assembly resolution was a compromise designed by those suggesting the amendment to exclude the possibility of abolishing the international regime. It was agreed, however, that the existing wording did not rule out that possibility.

It was agreed that this possibility made it even more desirable to secure the cooperation of the French in making the period of residential qualification in the Statute a fairly long one. Otherwise a sudden rush of Jews to register as residents in the City shortly before the referendum would be likely to destroy the international character of the City. It was agreed that the Colonial Office should make an approach to the French Government through the French Colonial Delegation at present in London, and that this should be reinforced by a démarche by H.M. Ambassador, Paris. The Colonial Office would write to the Foreign Office giving them material for instructions to H.M. Ambassador, Paris.

/Various

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Various methods were discussed of ensuring that the Trusteeship Council went on record as understanding the Assembly resolution to mean that the international character of the City could not be changed as a result of the referendum without reference to the General Assembly. It was agreed that the various suggestions which had been made required further interdepartmental study, and that the Colonial Office would write to the Foreign Office as soon as possible.

Item 4. Action required to establish the Governor and a City Statute.

Mr. Martin asked if there was serious prospect of the Statute, when approved by the Trusteeship Council, being put into effect. Sir Alan Burns indicated that he had grave doubts about this. He thought that in any case even if the Governor were appointed by the middle of February, it would be some months before he could effectively assume duty in Jerusalem. By that time the British Administration would have been withdrawn and an intervening period of chaos would probably have begun. It was pointed out that the Governor would have to recruit a security force for the City and also organize his own staff. The U.N. Secretariat would probably assist him in the latter task.

It was generally agreed that serious thought would have to be given to the future of Jerusalem between the end of the military regime and the establishment of effective international control. Colonial Office undertook to prepare a draft paper on this subject which they would submit to the Foreign Office for comment.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

pg 4 21

E 18

Dear Mathieson

Governor of Jerusalem.

Thank you for sending me the draft note of the discussion on 14th January. I have the following comments.

2. It would be preferable to substitute for the last sentence on page 1 ("If we were to support") the following two sentences.

"If the United Kingdom Government wanted to propose a Dominion name it would first be necessary to ascertain that his Government had no objection. If the United Kingdom Government wanted to support a Dominion name proposed by another State, it would be necessary to take account of the views of the Dominion Government concerned".

3. On the question whether the Governor should be a Christian, I remembered that Sir Alan Burns expressed the view that he need not be a Christian, though he should not be a Moslem. I took this as merely regulating the field of choice available for consideration at the meeting, and did not therefore dissent. In fact we then proceeded to consider only people who would normally be Christians. I think myself that opinion at any rate in Canada, Australia and New Zealand, where there is a strong Roman Catholic element, would regard it as undesirable that the Holy Places of Christianity should be put

under

J. A. C. Mathieson Esq.,
Colonial Office.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference: -

FO 371 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

under an infidel. This might not be felt so strongly in South Africa. India and Pakistan would of course see no objection to a non-Christian Governor, but I should not expect them to object to a Christian Governor. I should have thought, however, that it would be out of the question for the Government of the United Kingdom, inhabited by 46 million Christians, and where a Christian Church is established, to propose the appointment of an infidel. In the circumstances, and especially having regard to the subsequent course of the discussion, I suggest the omission of the sentence

"It was also agreed that there was no necessity for the Governor to be a Christian."

4. I am sending a copy of this letter to Beeley.

SBK

RE
19 JAN 1978

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				
Reference -					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E 771

20

20 JAN 1948

[This telegram is of particular ~~secrecy~~ and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTIONNEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 133

19th January, 1948

D. 1.40 p.m. 19th January, 1948

R. 7.00 p.m. 19th January, 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem

Washington Saving

IMMEDIATEGIANTSECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 133 of 19th January repeated to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Following for Martin, Colonial Office from Trafford Smith.

It seems likely that at joint meeting of Working Committee on Jerusalem and Palestine Commission later this week question of security will come to the fore from the Jerusalem side. It seems undesirable for us to become involved in general security question before that has been raised by the Commission in relation to Palestine as a whole, but I shall be grateful for guidance to what extent, if at all, we can offer to be helpful in regard to the security of Jerusalem. As I understand it, British troops and police must, of course, be withdrawn and can take no further part in maintaining order; but what is to be our attitude towards any possible project for an International Security Force? Will British police be permitted to volunteer for service with such a force after termination of their contracts?

Please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 14.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

dddddd

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	1				
		2			
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					



The Church House,
Gt. Smith Street,
London, S.W. 1.

21

January 21, 1948.

My Reference75872/154/26.

Your Reference

E 771/4/R1

My dear Bealey,

--- You will have seen New York telegram to
Foreign Office No. 133 of the 19th January
about the question of security in Jerusalem.
I enclose a draft reply for your concurrence
and despatch.

Yours etc,
W.A.C. Mathieson

(W.A.C. Mathieson)

H. DEELEY, Esq., CBE.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

Reference:-
FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Registry
No. E

~~Top Secret.~~
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

Sir A. Cadogan,
New York.

Telegram.

No. 295

(Date) 22nd Jan

Repeat to:-

Washington and 861
Jerusalem.
via Col. Off.

~~En Clair.~~

~~Code.~~

Cypher.

Distribution:-

Wald Dogn.

Copies to:-

2.307

CYPHER

Despatched

M.

~~Immediate~~
~~Secret~~
~~Grant~~

Addressed to UK Delegation, New York,
telegram no. 7 221, repeated
for information to Washington and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 133 [of 19th January
Jerusalem]. Following for Trafford Smith
from Martin, Colonial Office. We agree
that you should inform the Commission that
on the termination of the Mandate British
personnel of the Palestine Police Force will
be withdrawn from Jerusalem, as from the
rest of the country, and that our troops
will also be withdrawn from the City in
conformity with the military plan. We
therefore regard it as urgent that some
alternative force should be available to
preserve order. 2. You will ~~be able~~ have
available foreign Office telegram to

/new

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.S.S.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

New York No. 4344 in which certain observations of the High Commissioner on the problem of security in Jerusalem confirmed ^{revised} in his telegram No. 2415 to the Secretary of State were transmitted for Gibson's information. The High Commissioner will no doubt inform you if there has been any development in his proposal to assist the Jerusalem Municipality to form its own police force of Jews and Arabs. You may inform the Commission that we should raise no objection to members of the British section of the Palestine Police volunteering after the termination of their contracts for service with any international security force which might be established for the City.

HB 221

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

23

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

Repeated to Washington No. 861
Jerusalem via Colonial Office.

GIANT

Your telegram No. 133 [of 19th January: Jerusalem].

We agree that you should inform the Commission that on the termination of the Mandate British personnel of the Palestine Police Force will be withdrawn from Jerusalem, as from the rest of the country, and that our troops will also be withdrawn from the City in conformity with the military plan.

PPP

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	
Reference:- FO 371 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E

E 772

24

1948

20 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

EYR/4/31

P. Fella

C. K. Dol. New York.

5-2/1/48

P. Fella
14 Jan
20 -

11/14 Policy on Potential Security.

RPN for letter (E12500/951/31) with explanation
on para 2-3 but is not happy about
the answers to questions put in his letter of
10/23.Further comments re one of it, and
security forces.

Last Paper.

741

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

No doubt we shall incur odium in some
quarters if we refuse to share in the
enforcement of the U.N. plan for Palestine at
the point of the bayonet. But we shall equally
incur odium in other places if we do not refuse.

U.N. Political Dept.
Mr. Beckett.

HB 3/2 23/1

Frankly I think altogether is rubbish.
I do not think we shall incur
any odium in referring to enforce
the Assembly's Resolution & by
refusing to assist in such
enforcement. I should have brought
our position in keeping out of
that matter a matter that by
all reasonable minded countries.
A course in that are not!

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

1/1/48
1/1/48

1/1/48
1/1/48

Next Paper.

794

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

1

2

3

4

5

6

Reference:-
FO

371

68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

HB 3/2

It is naturally somewhat difficult to argue these complicated matters by letter and I do not necessarily wish to put you to the trouble of replying to this one, more especially as the circumstances contemplated are still hypothetical. But I thought it as well to place on record that we are still not happy about the answers to the questions in my letter of December 23rd, and that developments here may oblige us before long to ask for a formulation of His Majesty's Government's attitude towards a call by the Security Council to participate in the maintenance of peace and security in Palestine.

Yours ever
Paul.

(P. S. Falla)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E

E 794

27

1948

20 JAN 1948

Registry
Number
FROM

E 794/4/21

No.

A.M. Paynter

Dated

75882/154/21/48

Received

in Registry

16 JAN

20 -

Minute for City of London. L.A. Burns.
 Enclosed draft a l.d. for by L.A. Burns.
 as line which he should be allowed to take
 on the Trusteeship Council as Minute for
 the City of London and the instructions
 to the Governors.
 On 40 comment.

Last Paper.

772.

References.

(Minutes.)

I think this is satisfactory, ~~and~~ except
 that we should like a sentence added on
 the lines of the marked passage at page 3
 of the minutes in E 768 (attached).

If Mr. Wright agrees, I will clear it
 by telephone.

H.B. Bealey 207

Yes - with amendment to
 para 2 as with in

mtd

201

H.B. Bealey

Done.

H.B. 227

(Action
completed.)

P.L. 9/2

(Index)

29/1/48

Next Paper.

798

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

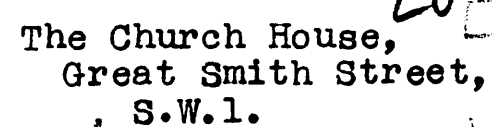
Reference:-

FO

371

68529

 COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON



16th January, 1948.

75872/154/26/48

My dear Mr. Tol- 20 JAN 1948

20 JAN 1948

You will remember that at our meeting the other day we agreed on the line which Burns should be allowed to take on the Trusteeship Council in regard to the Statute for the City of Jerusalem and the instructions to the Governor. Burns has asked me whether he can have a letter from the Colonial Office putting this revised directive in writing, and I have accordingly prepared the enclosed draft, which would be acceptable to him if you agree. Could you let me know whether you have any comments upon it?

Yours sincerely,

(A.H. Poynton)

M. R. WRIGHT, ESQ., C. M. G.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE						<i>Reference:-</i> FO 371 68529
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1					2	

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

DRAFT OFFICIAL LETTER

29

SIR ALAN BURNS, G.C.M.G.,

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Creech Jones to refer to your recent conversation with him and subsequent discussions between officials of the Colonial Office and Foreign Office in regard to the line which you, as United Kingdom Representative on the Trusteeship Council, should be authorised to take in regard to the draft Statute for the City of Jerusalem. The extent to which the United Kingdom Representative or his alternates should take a positive line on the Council must be determined by the general consideration that it is important to avoid any action which might give ground for subsequent allegations that the Statute was of United Kingdom origin or inspiration. Provided that this risk can be avoided, it is agreed that you should have wide discretion in dealing with the matter according to your judgment.

2. In particular you will recollect that the Secretary of State told you in conversation that, subject to the concurrence of the Foreign Office, he agreed that you should take all necessary steps to prevent any unsatisfactory alterations being made by the Trusteeship Council to the draft presented by the Working Committee. The Foreign Office concur in this view and accordingly this letter gives you formal authority to take whatever steps you consider necessary by discussion with other Representatives, by intervention in debate and by the exercise of your vote, to prevent the draft Statute from being altered in the Trusteeship Council in any manner which, in your judgment, would render it unworkable or prejudice the international character of Jerusalem.

3. Furthermore, it is agreed that there is not the same necessity to avoid the appearance of United Kingdom origin in

respect

*subject to
the
overriding
consideration
in the
interests
of the
Palestine
people*

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

respect of the detailed instructions to be issued by the Trusteeship Council to the Governor of Jerusalem. It is recognised that these instructions deal with detailed matters of administration where precision is essential and where the accumulated experience of the United Kingdom will be invaluable. You are therefore authorised to take whatever steps you consider necessary to ensure that the text of the instructions is satisfactory.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E

E 798

30

1948

PALESTINE

20 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

E 798/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

UK 1

No.

1140/401

Dated

136

Received
in Registry

14 Jan

20

1. The Committee has received a letter from the
2. The Committee has received a letter from the
3. The Committee has received a letter from the
4. The Committee has received a letter from the
5. The Committee has received a letter from the
6. The Committee has received a letter from the
7. The Committee has received a letter from the
8. The Committee has received a letter from the
9. The Committee has received a letter from the
10. The Committee has received a letter from the

Last Paper.

794

(Minutes.)

1. The Committee has received a letter from the
2. The Committee has received a letter from the
3. The Committee has received a letter from the
4. The Committee has received a letter from the
5. The Committee has received a letter from the
6. The Committee has received a letter from the
7. The Committee has received a letter from the
8. The Committee has received a letter from the
9. The Committee has received a letter from the
10. The Committee has received a letter from the

C.L.D. ✓ 27/1

1813. 23/1

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. Whittaker 80
1. Excluded Pub Off
M.I. 3a
M 04
Adams
A.M.
Jan 21

(Action
completed.)

G.L.M. 24/1

(Index)

24/1

Next Paper.

812

30471 F.O.P

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E 798

31

20 JAN 1948
FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

No. 136.

D: 9.31 p.m. 19th January, 1948.

19th January, 1948. R: 2.58 a.m. 20th January, 1948.

Repeated to Washington Saving.

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 136 19th January
repeated Saving to Washington.

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 160.-

I have nothing to add to Ottawa telegram No. 34.

2. I have promised to keep Canadian Delegation currently informed of my discussions with Palestine Commission and propose to do the same with United States Delegation. I understand however with reference to Foreign Office telegram No. 4,388, that Hildring is no longer a member of the Delegation.

②②②

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	
<i>Reference:-</i> FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E

1948

E 812

21 JAN 1948

32

PALESTINE

Registry
Number
FROM

E 812/4/31

No.

40 minute

Dated

H. Beeley

Received
in Registry

12 Jan

21 -

Palestine, and Security Council
discusses the Role of the Security Council
in implementation of General Assembly's
resolution on Palestine.

Last Paper.

798

(Minutes.)

Please see minutes within.

References.

29.1
U.N. Political Dept. again.

H. Beeley 21/1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

H. 3. 4 1/2

(Action
completed.)

LC
27/1/48

(Index)

LC
27/1/48

Next Paper.

864

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Miquetes.

PALESTINE.

21 JAN 1948

The Role of the Security Council.

In its resolution on Palestine of the 29th November 1947, the General Assembly requested the Security Council:

- (1) to take "the necessary measures as provided for in the plan for its implementation";
- (2) to consider "if circumstances during the transitional period require such consideration "whether the situation in Palestine constitutes a threat to the peace, and, if such a threat exists, to take measures under Articles 39 and 41 of the Charter "to empower the United Nations Commission, as provided in this resolution, to exercise in Palestine the functions which are assigned to it by this resolution;"
- (3) to determine "a threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression in accordance with Article 39 of the Charter any attempt to alter by force the settlement envisaged by this resolution."

It is being generally assumed in public discussion of the present situation in Palestine that the Security Council will act as the agent of the General Assembly, and will confine itself to acting in accordance with the terms of the resolution quoted above. This idea seems to be implicit in the statement made by Trygve Lie when he addressed the first meeting of the Palestine Commission in New York on the 9th January.

"You are entitled to be confident" Mr Lie said "that, if necessary, the Security Council will assume its full measure of responsibility for the implementation of the Assembly's resolution."

The Security Council, however, is not a subordinate but a principal organ of the United Nations. As I read the Charter, its task, when the situation in Palestine is brought before it, will be not to ~~exclude~~ ^{execute} the will of the Assembly, but to consider the situation as a whole with a view to discharging its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. If this view is correct, the Security Council could presumably take action under chapter 6 of the Charter, and not, in the first instance, under chapter 7 as is suggested in the General Assembly's

resolution/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Minutes.

resolution. In other words, it might decide to apply Article 36 and to "recommend appropriate procedures or methods of adjustment" with a view to a peaceful settlement. The Syrian member of the Security Council will no doubt call for action under paragraph 3 of article 36, which reads as follows:-

"In making recommendations under this article the Security Council should also take into consideration that *local legal* disputes should as a general rule be referred by the parties to the International Court of Justice in accordance with the provisions of the Statute of the Court."

When speculating on the probable attitude of the Security Council to the Palestine problem in general and the resolution of the General Assembly in particular, it is of interest to note the way in which the present members of the Security Council cast their votes in the Assembly on the 29th November.

Six of the eleven members voted in favour of partition. Four of these - the United States, Canada, the Soviet Union, and the Ukraine - were in the pro-partition party throughout the Assembly. The other two - France and Belgium - joined it only at the end with considerable reluctance.

One member - Syria - voted against partition.

Four members - the United Kingdom, China, Argentina, and Colombia - abstained.

Those who abstained or voted against partition are likely to show caution in approaching any suggestion that the Security Council should take action under chapter 7 to enforce the Assembly's resolution, though China probably, and the United Kingdom certainly, will not carry their caution to the point of using the veto. In this situation, much may turn on the attitude of France and Belgium.

H. Bealey
12th January, 1948.

U.N. Political Dept. for any o.k.

The question seems to turn upon what precisely Mr. Bealey means in his phrase "its task" (i.e. the task of the Security Council) "when the situation in Palestine is brought before it".

The passages which Mr. Bealey quotes from the General Assembly's resolution on Palestine seem to me, broadly speaking, to be dealing with a state of affairs where something is occurring to prevent the execution of the Assembly's resolution, whether/

VER IN O.B.

1213

21 JAN 1948

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

whether because a situation exists in which the United Nations Commission is unable to carry out its functions under the Assembly resolution, or, more directly, because there is some specific attempt being made to alter the settlement which the Assembly has recommended.

It must be remembered that the General Assembly itself has no executive powers and it is, I think, fair to say that in the circumstances indicated the Security Council would be acting as the Assembly's agent rather than motu proprio and that, therefore, unless it were to place itself in direct antagonism to the Assembly, it should follow out the procedure which the Assembly has recommended that it should follow as its agent. In thinking this, I am not implying that the Security Council is itself less of a principal organ of the United Nations than the General Assembly, any more than, for example, the Trusteeship Council is: merely that the Security Council (just as in a different state of circumstances, the Trusteeship Council) can assume the role of agent of the Assembly since the latter has no executive powers.

I am not quite sure that I have interpreted correctly the phrase in Mr. Beeley's minute which I have quoted at the beginning of my minute. He may possibly be thinking of a move by some country to establish that, as the result of the Assembly's resolution a dangerous state of affairs has arisen in Palestine and that this is a matter which the Security Council should examine on its merits. I may be wrong, but this would seem to me to come very close to an accusation that the Assembly's resolution itself had produced (and perhaps was bound to have produced) an untenable position: and for the Security Council then to assume jurisdiction on the lines suggested by Mr. Beeley would seem to me to be again coming very close to placing one principal organ of the United Nations in antagonism to another. I do not know that this is anywhere specifically ~~stated~~ in the Charter but I should have thought such a conflict was contrary to the whole sense and intention of the Charter, and that the Security Council would in those circumstances not assume jurisdiction. But I suppose that this question of the rival (if they are rival) functions of the Assembly and the Security Council might be made the subject of a request for an advisory opinion from the International Court.

In general, however, I cannot help feeling that all this is getting somewhat unnecessarily suttle, and that in practice a general and perhaps more straight forward view of its functions in the matter would be taken by the Security Council much on the lines indicated by the Secretary General as quoted in Mr. Beeley's minute.

I think it would be useful if Eastern Department would also consult on this matter.
the/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Minutes.

the Legal Adviser, who's views indeed I should myself be interested to see.

12th January, 1948.

I agree generally with what Mr. Mason says, and I am afraid I did not make it clear in my original minute that I assumed the Security Council ^{would be confronted} with a very different situation in Palestine itself from that which had existed during the General Assembly. It would not be necessary to argue that the deterioration of security in Palestine was due to the Assembly's decision (though that is in fact the case); it would be enough to show that it had taken place since the Assembly's decision, so that the situation had radically changed in the interval.

H.B. 127

1. Mr. Beckett
2. Jell

There are really two points. What the Security Council ought to do if the United Nations was an efficient, harmonious body whose parts all worked together as they should do, etc. In that event I think undoubtedly the position would be that given

in/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Minutes.

in Mr. Mason's minute, and on the question of obtaining the advisory opinion of the Court the Council would say that it was really for the General Assembly to have done this, if necessary, since it was a General Assembly resolution.

The other question is what, in fact, in the situation as we have it, the Security Council is likely to do, and here we find the Security Council given the baby of enforcing a decision with regard to Palestine in the General Assembly in a situation where it seems to be clear that the opposition is even stronger than it was thought to be at the time the General Assembly took its decision; when the Security Council has in fact no forces at its disposal to do so and therefore has to call upon individual members of the United Nations to assist it in this task, and when I suppose it is probable the individual members of the United Nations will all wish to be in the rear and not in the front.

In these circumstances it may not act in quite the straightforward way that it should and as Mr. Mason suggests. It may even try and get out of what it feels to be an impossible position by saying: "Well, at any rate before ~~it~~ enforced a General Assembly decision ~~it~~ ought to be satisfied that it is in accordance with the Charter". and ~~there~~ further, since many states have asked for an advisory opinion of the Court, this opinion should be sought. I do not think it is very likely that the Security Council will adopt a resolution in this sense because hitherto the Soviet Union has made a dead set against the International Court and, on this point, I think the United States will not be keen to have matters delayed by obtaining such an opinion.

13th January, 1948.

Whatever may be the legal rights of the case, I do not myself believe that the Security Council will repudiate the Assembly Resolution, and I should think the probabilities were that if we abstain it will by the necessary vote (four Great Powers plus three others) approve any action which the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. are prepared jointly to recommend. This, of course, may not amount to much since the last thing the United States would vote for is any scheme involving the despatch of Russian troops to the Holy Land. But it is just conceivable that (for instance) if the Jews were on the point of being pushed into the sea the Security Council would organise the despatch to them of enough munitions to enable them to maintain a foothold on the land.

In/

Public Record Office					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

Reference: -

FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Minutes.

In saying this I quite agree that in theory the Security Council would be perfectly in order in considering the whole Palestine issue, if this is brought before it by an Arab State or by any other Member, completely de novo and quite regardless of the Assembly's resolution. But in practice I do not believe that things will work out in this way, and I am sure that Russian opposition would block even an approach to the Court for an advisory opinion.

GLADWYN JEBB

16th January 1948

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE						Reference: -	
1	2	3	4	5	6	FO 371/68529	
	1			2			
						COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON	

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group...FO.....

Class. 371.....

Piece... 68529.

Following document(s) retained
in the Department of origin
under Section 3 (4) of the
Public Records Act, 1958

E 864/4/31

1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	



371

68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE LONDON

27

E

36

1948

E 865

21 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

ES 5/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

U.K. R. 1

No.

146

Dated

146

Received

in Registry

21 Jan

21

copy transmitted on 10/1/48
After the effect of 133 (EY 11/4/31) being attended
to by the copy sent to the U.K. R. 1, it was
agreed to postpone joint meeting of the U.K. R. 1
to a date not less than 3 days before the meeting of
the U.K. R. 1. This was done by the U.K. R. 1
copy sent to the U.K. R. 1. The meeting of the U.K. R. 1
will be held on 21/1/48.

Last Paper.

864

(Minutes.)

I think Mr. Liscinsky is right
U.N. Political Dept.

References.

H. Bealey 231
11

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Walker 60
Landed 1st 7/4
11.30
1404
Admalty
A.M.
Jan 21/48
On 1/48

(Action
completed.)

1/4/48

(Index.)

2/4/48

Next Paper.

871

30471 F.O.P

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 146.

D. 7.21 p.m. 20th January, 1948.
R. 2.15 a.m. 21st January, 1948.

20th January, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Washington - Saving.

IMPORTANT.

GLANT.

SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office tele. 21 JAN 14 1948 20th
January, repeated to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Following for Martin, Colonial Office, from Trafford
Smith.

My telegram 133.

Lisicky attended meeting of Working Committee on
Jerusalem this afternoon to answer questions. It was agreed
to postpone joint meeting of Working Committee and Palestine
Commission until two or three days before Trusteeship
Council meets in February.

2. Lisicky took a useful and realistic line with the
Working Committee, trying to impress on them the political
difficulties involved in various projects they had in mind
such as the inclusion of Kalundia air-field within the
boundaries. He turned aside questions of food supplies,
security of communications between the City and the sea, etc.,
as not strictly matters for the Working Committee, which
should confine itself to the preparation of a statute for
the working of the City in normal times. He stressed
particularly the futility of attempting to consider the
implementation of the Jerusalem section of the plan apart
from the partition plan as a whole.

3. Sabben-Clare and I both attended today's
meetings. He will carry on henceforward with Working Committee.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my
telegram No. 17.

[Advance copy sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial
Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for Martin]

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E

E 371

38

21 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 871/4/31

U.K. Del

New York.

16

16 JAN

21

Commissioner Holman by J. O. [unclear]
 R/ [unclear] 11 97 (E/44/4/31)
 does transmit full text of statement
 as per it posted in Palestine, signed
 by [unclear] under [unclear].

Last Paper.

865

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Abakus, CO
 Jan. 28

(Action
completed.)

1/21/48
 21/1/48

(Index)

21/1/48
 21/1/48

Next Paper.

907

(Minutes.)

The first enclosure is remarkably
 tendentious. It conveys an impression that the
 partial breakdown of government in Palestine is
 almost entirely due to Arab aggression. The High
 Commissioner, however, reports that there has been
 more provocation on the Jewish than on the
 Arab side.

H. Beeley 21/

copy CO.

I agree. The sentence about
 the Haifa incident might well have
 been composed by the Jewish Agency.
 Should we ask CO if they would
 agree to our writing to U.K. Del in
 this sense?

BABS

23.1

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No. 16 (52/16/48)

29K

HIS Majesty's Permanent Delegate to United Nations /
presents his compliments to H.M.P.S. of S. for F.A.
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British.....Delegation to the
.....United Nations,
.....New York.

16th January, 1948....

Reference to previous correspondence:

Our telegram No.99 to F.O.

Description of Enclosure. 644/47

Name and Date.

E Subject 371

14th January, 1948

21 JAN 1948
Note on present position
in Palestine.

(Copies also sent to Washington and Jerusalem)

3479A [31211] (8)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
2					
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

C O P Y.

14th January, 1948.

NOTE ON PRESENT POSITION IN PALESTINE

40

1. The serious disturbances which have occurred in Palestine since the General Assembly's approval of the Plan for Partition of Palestine may be deemed to have started with the three-day general strike called by the Arabs shortly after the General Assembly's decision. As members of the Commission will no doubt be aware, this led to the destruction of a considerable amount of Jewish property in the commercial centre of Jerusalem and elsewhere. At the same time, the Arabs made it clear that they proposed to resist with all the forces at their disposal the implementation of the Partition Plan.

2. Since the first week of December, the position has deteriorated rapidly and each community has inflicted on the other a series of reprisal measures.

3. By the second week in January, the position had deteriorated to such an extent that the Supreme Court and the Assize Courts had been unable to sit for a month, the General Post Office was closed and about one half of the thirty-two Departments of Government had been without staffs, either wholly or intermittently, for the best part of a month. Owing to the serious outrage at the Consolidated Refineries Limited in Haifa, where some forty Jews were killed by Arabs who had been standing in a queue into which Jews threw a bomb from a passing taxi, the Refineries have been closed and Palestine only has one month's supply of certain types of fuel oil in the country.

4. It should be made clear that the closing of these Government Departments is in no sense due to a strike of Government employees but has resulted from three facts:-

- (a) In many cases, owing to the general insecurity, Palestinian officers have been unable to reach their offices at all.
- (b) There is a sense of insecurity in the offices themselves - that is to say the officers of each community are afraid that if, as a result of incidents outside, tempers rise, officers of the other community may set upon them in the office by way of reprisal. Although this attitude of mind is wide spread, I am not aware of any cases in which such an attack has actually occurred in a Government office.
- (c) If for any reason the officers of one community do not attend a particular office, the officers of the other community fear that they will become the target for an attack from outside the office and they in their turn tend to stay away.

5. As reported in the press, there is a daily toll of lives among military and police personnel, quite apart from continued murderous attacks of one community against another. Generally speaking, there has been a very severe diminution in the functions and authority of Civil Government and in view of recent developments, it would be optimistic to hope for any improvement in the future.

6. As regards communications, the Arabs have set up blocks on many of the roads
/in

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	

Reference:-
FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

41

in Palestine and also in a number of the towns. This resulted in a very considerable interference with road traffic, and as has been reported in the press, a number of military and police personnel have been killed and wounded in negotiating these blocks.

7. So far as I am aware, the export of the citrus crop has been continuing fairly satisfactorily inasmuch as attacks on the railways have not, for the most part, taken the form which has hitherto prevailed, namely, of blowing up the actual line. Attacks have come chiefly from Arabs on specific trains. It has been reported that these raids have been conducted so as to enable the Arabs to furnish themselves with supplies, e.g. foodstuffs, and military stores for their guerrilla training camps. Incidents have also been reported of Arab attacks on Police Stations etc. for the purpose of obtaining arms.

8. Although revenue had been coming in fairly satisfactorily up to the end of 1947, there are indications that the amounts to be collected in the last three months of the financial year, which ends on March 31st, 1948, may be very much below normal - particularly as regards income tax.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PALESTINE

Draft Statement for the Session of the Commission
on 14th January, 1948.

At the outset of our discussions, it is perhaps desirable that I should once more reaffirm the position from which His Majesty's Government have not deviated since the original statements were made in the course of the recent session of the Assembly. As a good member of the United Nations, my Government have accepted the General Assembly's decision in so far as its terms do not conflict with the conditions laid down by the United Kingdom spokesmen during the discussions in the Ad Hoc Committee and the General Assembly.

2. My Government have already announced their intention to complete the withdrawal of British forces from Palestine by 1st August this year. I am instructed to inform the Commission that, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations plan that the mandate shall terminate as soon as possible, His Majesty's Government have decided to lay down the mandate and terminate the mandatory administration at the latest on May 15th, or earlier, if the necessary arrangements can be completed in time. At the moment, I am not in a position to state definitely whether the earlier date is likely to be achieved, but I hope to be able to do so in the near future. One important point must be made clear in regard to this date. His Majesty's Government regard it as essential that, so long as the mandatory regime is maintained, they must retain undivided control over the whole of Palestine. On the appointed day, their responsibility for the government of Palestine will be relinquished as a whole; they cannot agree to relinquish it piecemeal. They are, however, prepared to agree to the Commission's arrival in Palestine shortly before the mandate is terminated, in order that there may be an overlap of say, ^a fortnight during which the Commission can take up its responsibilities.

3. Subject to any changes of plan which may become necessary if the mandate is terminated sooner than May 15, the broad outlines of the plan of military withdrawal, which is at present secret, are as follows:-

Arrangements have been made for a series of clear-cut backward moves northwards from the Egyptian frontier so that areas will be evacuated as follows:

/Gaza

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

43

Gaza civil district by	29th February
Jerusalem, Lydda and part of Samaria by	31st May
Remainder of Samaria and Galilee	30th June
The remaining enclave around Haifa by	31st July.

4. It is hoped that these moves will be made with the minimum dislocation of the economic life of Palestine, particularly the citrus trade.
5. There are a number of important matters arising out of the relinquishment of authority by the mandatory administration and its assumption by the Commission, in regard to which His Majesty's Government wish to consult with the Commission. No doubt there are also many questions which the Commission wish to raise with my Government. In all these matters, His Majesty's Government will endeavour to give the Commission the benefit of their experience and knowledge of the situation in Palestine, subject always to their decision that they are unable to take part in the implementation of the United Nations plan.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

37

E

E 907

44

1948

22 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 907/4/31

41 Minute

W. Reddy.

12 Jan

22 -

Conversation, Musa Bey Alami.

Part of conversation with Musa Bey Alami during
which question of security of the City of Jerusalem
after British troops are withdrawn is
discussed.Musa's suggestion was that the Lebanese Gendarmes
should be invited to send a contingent of
gendarmes to protect, at least the old city.

Last Paper.

871

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

2/ Benet 38
 Rtd. Ben 92
 Baghdad 58
 Damascus 27
 Istanbul 34
 Amman 31
 BMEO 48
 W. Jan 782

20 Jan

PTO

(Action
completed.)PP
16/23/

(Index.)

28/1/48

Next Paper.

(1054)

930

(Minutes.)

See within.

H.B. 221

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

8, Wharfedale, CO
Censored Pub Off
11-1-39
1404
Ordinary
O.M.
Jan 22

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
2					

Reference:-
FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E 11 907

≤ 45

22 JAN 1948

His suggestion was that the Lebanese Government should be invited to send a contingent of gendarmerie to protect at least the old City.

The claim of

- (1) It should first have become clear that, when British forces are withdrawn from Jerusalem, the United Nations will not be ready to provide effective protection for the City.
- (2) The Lebanese Government would have to offer an explanation of the limited purposes of their action, and to announce that they would regard themselves as international trustees for the safety of Jerusalem until more permanent arrangements can be made.
- (3) The Lebanese Guard would have to be admitted to the City by the G.C.C. before the British troops left.

H. Beebe

H. Beeley.

12th January, 1948.

This is an interesting idea.
It would only be worth pursuing
if the Jews & the other Arab
states

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

θ is accepted.

We should first consult
C.C. Jerusalem & Beirut.

W. H. Lutz

42.1

Yes

porcelain

13.1

I am afraid it is too
reasonable to be acceptable

Jan 4

Draft submitted.

H. Beeley 167

C.B.

JAN 1943

SENT TO DEPT.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Cairo
Bagdad
Damascus
Jedda
Amman
B. M. F. O.
Jerusalem

Addressed to Beirut Telegram No.

January repeat for information to
Cairo, Bagdad, Damascus, Jedda, Amman, B.M.E.O.
Jerusalem.

Although progress is being made in New York with the drafting of a Statute for Jerusalem, as part of the General Assembly plan for the future of Palestine, it seems doubtful whether the United Nations will be able to afford physical protection ^{to} of the City when British Forces are withdrawn.

2. The problem of protecting the City and particularly the Holy Places, arose recently in the course of a conversation ^{here} with Musa (Director of the Arab Office) Alami, who put forward a suggestion that the Lebanese Government should be invited to send a contingent of gendamerie to protect at least the Old City. He thought the Lebanese would be willing to accept this responsibility.

3. This suggestion seems to merit consideration. The Zionists have so frequently claimed that they enjoy the sympathy of the Lebanese Christians. ~~This might possibly lessen the strength of their immediate objections though they are hardly likely to raise very convincing objections. Nor would it be expedient for them to do so since their opponents in the U.N. Assembly. On the other hand they will certainly, when their State is~~

established, wish to cultivate close relations with the Lebanese. So far as the Arabs are

concerned/

Departmental

Usual Palestine
Distribution

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1			2		

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

47

concerned, the Lebanese action would probably arouse less jealousy than similar action by any other ^{Arab} Government. Nor would other powers find it easy to challenge the claim of the nearest Christian or predominantly Christian State to protect the Holy Places in an emergency. Lebanese action would have the additional advantage, in the light of past quarrels between the Christian Churches, that it would ^{not} imply either exclusively Latin or exclusively Greek intervention.

4. If it were decided to sound the Lebanese Government on this plan, certain essential conditions would have to be made clear from the outset, No step could be taken until it was evident to the world that the United Nations would not be ready to provide effective protection for Jerusalem when British troops withdrew. The Lebanese Government would have to proclaim that they regarded themselves as provisional International trustees for the safety of Jerusalem until more permanent arrangements could be made. ^{it would probably be desirable that they should} And they would have to state explicitly that they assumed responsibility for the safety of all the inhabitants of at least the Old City, of whatever faith.

5. Above all, we should certainly not wish to pursue this idea any further unless we were reasonably confident that all the Arab States, and the Zionists, would be likely to acquiesce in it and to respect a temporarily Lebanese authority in Jerusalem. We should therefore welcome your comments and those of H.M. Representatives at other Arab posts. The Colonial Secretary would similarly be glad ^{to have} for the views of the High Commissioner for Palestine.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Registry
No. E

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential
Restricted.
Open

Draft.
Beirut

Telegram.

No. 38

(Date) Jan 20

Repeat to :-

Cairo 92
Bagdad 58
Damascus 27
Jedda 34
Amman 31
B.M.E.O. 48
Jerusalem

Washington 482

C.O. in view of
high as marked
C.O. for
consequence.

En-Clair.

Code.

Cypher. M. Wright

Distribution :-

Departmental

Pol.

Copies to :-

Usual Palestine
Distribution

likely to forget
that the Lebanese
Delegate was one of
their most bitter
opponents in the
United Nations Assembly.

OUT FILE 48

F.O.

1940

Despatched

M.

IMPORTANT SECRET

Addressed to Beirut Telegram No. 38

January 20¹⁵ repeat for information to
Cairo, Bagdad, Damascus, Jedda, Amman, B.M.E.O.
Jerusalem. *Washington*.

Although progress is being made in
New York with the drafting of a Statute for
Jerusalem, as part of the General Assembly's
plan for the future of Palestine, it seems
doubtful whether the United Nations will be
able to afford physical protection of the
City when British Forces are withdrawn.

2. The problem of protecting the City and
particularly the Holy Places, arose recently
in the course of a conversation with Musa
(*Director of the Arab Office*) the
Alami, who put forward a suggestion that the
Lebanese Government should be invited to send
a contingent of gendamerie to protect at least
the Old City. He thought the Lebanese would
be willing to accept this responsibility.

3. This suggestion seems to merit considera-
tion. The Zionists have ~~se~~ frequently claimed
that they enjoy the sympathy of the Lebanese
Christians. *This might possibly lessen the strength of*
~~that it would be difficult for~~
~~their immediate objections, though they are hardly~~
~~them to raise very convincing objections.~~ *Not*

~~would it be expedient for them to do so since~~
On the other hand they
~~they~~ will certainly, when their State is
established, wish to cultivate close relations
with the Lebanese. So far as the Arabs are
concerned/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(10350) Wt. 43897-140 100m 3147 G.S.S. GP 841

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

concerned, ~~the~~ Lebanese action would probably arouse less jealousy than similar action by any other ^{Arab} Government. Nor would other powers find it easy to challenge the claim of the nearest Christian or predominantly Christian State to protect the Holy Places in an emergency. Lebanese action would have the additional advantage, in the light of past quarrels between the Christian Churches, that it would ^{not} imply either exclusively Latin or exclusively Greek intervention.

4. If it were decided to sound the Lebanese Government on this plan, certain essential conditions would have to be made clear from the outset, ~~No~~ step could be taken until it was evident to the world that the United Nations would not be ready to provide effective protection for Jerusalem when British troops withdrew. The Lebanese Government would have to proclaim that they regarded themselves as provisional International trustees for the safety of Jerusalem until more permanent arrangements could be made. ~~And they would have to state explicitly that~~ ^{it would probably be desirable that they should} they assumed responsibility for the safety of all the inhabitants of at least the Old City, of whatever faith.

5. Above all, we should certainly not wish to pursue this idea any further unless we were reasonably confident that all the Arab States, and the Zionists, would be likely to acquiesce in it and to respect a temporary ~~Lebanese~~ authority in Jerusalem. We should therefore welcome your comments and those of H.M. Representatives at other Arab posts. The Colonial Secretary would similarly be glad ^{to have} ~~for~~ the views of the High Commissioner for Palestine.

Caro pass to AMEO
as my ltr No 48.

15 Jan 57

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

49

POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BEIRUT

D. 2.00 a.m. 21st January, 1948

Repeated to Cairo No.92; Bagdad No.58; Damascus No.27;
Jedda No.34; Amman No.31; B.M.E.O. No.48;
Jerusalem and Washington No.782.

IMPORTANT

SECRET

Addressed to Beirut telegram No.38 January 20th,
repeated for information to Cairo, Bagdad, Damascus, Jeddah,
Amman, B.M.E.O., Jerusalem and Washington.

Although progress is being made in New York with the drafting of a Statute for Jerusalem, as part of the General Assembly's plan for the future of Palestine, it seems doubtful whether the United Nations will be able to afford physical protection to the City when British Forces are withdrawn.

2. The problem of protecting the City and particularly the Holy Places arose recently in the course of a conversation here with Musa Alami, Director of the Arab Offices, who put forward the suggestion that the Lebanese Government should be invited to send a contingent of gendamerie to protect at least the Old City. He thought the Lebanese would be willing to accept this responsibility.

3. This suggestion seems to merit consideration. The Zionists have frequently claimed that they enjoy the sympathy of the Lebanese Christians. This might possibly lessen the strength of their immediate objections, though they are hardly likely to forget that the Lebanese Delegate was one of their most bitter opponents in the United Nations Assembly. On the other hand they will certainly, when their State is established, wish to cultivate close relations with the Lebanese. So far as the Arabs are concerned, Lebanese action would probably arouse less jealousy than similar action by any other Arab Government. Nor would other powers find it easy to challenge the claim of the nearest Christian or predominantly Christian State to protect the Holy Places in an emergency. Lebanese action would have the additional advantage, in the light of past quarrels between the Christian Churches, that it would not imply either exclusively Latin or exclusively Greek intervention.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY
WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

5. Above all, we should certainly not wish to pursue this idea any further unless we were reasonably confident that all the Arab States, and the Zionists, would be likely to acquiesce in it and to respect a temporary Lebanese authority in Jerusalem. We should therefore welcome your comments and those of His Majesty's Representatives at other Arab posts. The Colonial Secretary would similarly be glad to have the views of the High Commissioner for Palestine.

Cairo pass to B.M.B.O. as my telegram No.48.

k k k

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

References -
FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

1043	Palestine EASTERN	EQ30 /G 50
------	----------------------	---------------

EQ30 / 4/ 31/4
Col. Waterfield
Ministry of Defence
Mr. Beeley
COB 93/20/1/8
Dated 20 Jan.

Force to be provided by
United Nations in Palestine
when Mandate ends
Attaches HSC 45.

Last Paper.
E 183.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

af) to Col Waterfield
HSC
from Mr Beeley
✓ 25. Feb.

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

(Minutes.)

Draft submitted

Mr Beeley 23/11

I fear that I cannot agree with paragraph 3 of Mr. Beeley's draft. I realise that we want to make the Military Staff Committee work, but we have definitely said that in this case we will not take part in collective enforcement action by the Security Council and any co-operation by us of the kind suggested with the Military Staff Committee would certainly be represented throughout the Middle East as helping the United Nations to suppress the Arabs. The general question of our attitude in the Security Council if the Palestine question is raised there remains to be settled, but it is generally assumed that we should at least abstain if there is a vote on the question of using military force to enforce the United Nations decision. It would seem to be a corollary of this attitude that we should also abstain from the preparations for the use of such force in the Military Staff Committee. I fear therefore that our answer to the U.K. Delegation should be that they should dissociate themselves entirely from any such discussions in the Military Staff Committee.

V.N. Dept.

J.A.S. Burrows

24th January, 1948.

I am afraid that I am on Mr Beeley's side. If we want to oppose the idea of the force at all costs we must use our veto in the Security Council (though I hope we shant). But if we content ourselves (as I hope we shall) with

30471 F.O.P.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Speaking against it in the Council and abstaining on a vote, then, if the Council approves the idea, it would be quite wrong for us to refrain from participating in the discussions in the M.S.C. if it is called upon to fulfil its task of technical adviser to the Council. If we refrained, we ~~should~~ ^{might} ~~possibly~~ end the M.S.C. then and there and do irreparable harm to the U.N., and could not justify our action on the ground that we had abstained from voting in the Council itself.

Mr Jeff shares my views.

T. Mason
26.1

I strongly agree with Mr Bannows. Any other attitude would have grave repercussions on our position in the middle East at this critical juncture when all our treaty relationships are at stake.

McDonnell
27.1

Sir D. Sargant ~~suggested~~ ^{endorsed} the views of Mr. Bannows and Mr Wright on this question.

I submit an alternative draft.

H. Bealey 27/2

Please see Mr Bannows' minutes on the attached draft McDonnell.

D. Bannows
4.2
~~McDonnell~~

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Minutes.

51

I understand that the Minister of State supported Mr Mason's view.

We shall have to ask for a decision from the S. of S.

I attach a draft minute.

J. A. S. Mason

Please see minutes behind. 14.2
I now attach a third draft, and have informed M. of Defence by telephone of its general lines.

H. Beeley 24/12

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

1

2

3

4

5

6

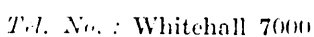
Reference:-

FO

371

68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON



TOP SECRET

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
GREAT GEORGE STREET,
S.W.1

20th January, 1948.

F930

Dear Bealey,

• • •

The Chiefs of Staff representatives on the Military Staff Committee in New York report in the attached telegram (NSC 45) that it seems likely in the near future that the Military Staff Committee may be asked to consider the size and composition of a force to be provided by the United Nations in Palestine when the Mandate ends.

It would seem to be a matter for political decision whether or no the United Kingdom representatives should be permitted to discuss this issue in the Military Staff Committee. I should be glad if the Foreign Office could advise on the desirability of the U.K. representatives taking part in such discussions.

Before the Chiefs of Staff can examine and make recommendations on the details of the size and composition of the force that would be required it will be necessary to assess the likely tasks which the force will be likely to be called upon to perform, and from which countries we should prefer the force to be found.

It is clear that the role of the Force could only be decided by the United Nations Organisation itself but I should be grateful for any guidance

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1			2		
<i>Reference:-</i> FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					



the Foreign Office could give on the following matters:-

- (a) Would the Army component of the force be required only to implement the General Assembly's resolution for the partition of Palestine and to maintain internal security, or would it also be responsible for securing the frontiers between the two new Palestine states and indeed the exterior frontiers with Palestine, Egypt, Iraq and Transjordan?
- (b) What tasks would the Air Force component be required to perform? Would these tasks be limited to air transport and supply or to include tactical bombing and close support of ground troops?
- (c) What would be the role of the Naval component? Would it include any task in relation to illegal immigration?

I fully realize that in advance of any decisions from the United Nations, answers to the above questions can only be tentative. Any guidance that you could give the Chiefs of Staff would be of great assistance, if you think that any useful purpose will be served in making an examination on the lines of that requested by the Chiefs of Staff representatives in New York.

yours sincerely

H. Beeley, Esq., C.B.E.,
Foreign Office.

P.R.M. waterfield

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference:-

FO 371 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

54

TOP SECRET CYPHER TELEGRAMRECEIVED BY O.T.P.

From: U.K. Delegation, New York.

TOD 161430
TOR 162000

To : Foreign Office.

MSC 45

16th January, 1948.

It seems likely that in the near future the question of the Palestine Commission having some organised force at its back will be raised in the Security Council by some member or by some outside body such as the Palestine Commission or the Jewish Agency.

2. Apart altogether from the political question of U.K. participation in such enforcement action as might be decided on by the Security Council, it seems to us that the M.S.C. as advisers to the Security Council, may be asked by that body for advice as to the size and composition of a force required to maintain peace in Palestine and implement the General Assembly's resolution.

3. In that event we should, as members of the M.S.C. naturally be expected to take part in discussions on the size and composition of the force required.

4. Unless therefore it is decided for political reasons that we should dissociate ourselves entirely from such discussions in the M.S.C. we shall require your advice on:

(i) The size and composition of the force which would be required in Palestine, and

(ii) For our own information the least objectionable international composition of a force for use in that country in the light of British strategic interests in the Middle East.

5. We realise that these problems are at present hypothetical only but it seems likely that they may shortly arise in a concrete form.

CIRCULATION

D.C.O.E.
Foreign Office.
First Sea Lord.
Message Control W.O.
A.H.C.E.
Chief of Combined Ops. Staff.
S/S for Colonies.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Registry
No. E 930/4/6

Top Secret.
~~SECRET~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~RESTRICTED~~
~~SECRET~~

Draft. to:

Lt.Col. P.R.M.
WATERFIELD, M.B.E.
Ministry of
Defence.

(from Mr. Bealey)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(33654) W114696/147 75000 647 A & E.W.L.L. Gp.685

TOP SECRET

Please refer to your top secret letter No. 93/20/1/8 of the 20th January, in which you asked a number of questions arising from the possibility that the Security Council may seek the advice of the Military Staff Committee on the subject of international military action in Palestine.

The Foreign Office are at present inclined to think that the intervention of an international force, however composed, in order to implement the General Assembly's resolution concerning Palestine would not be in the interest of His Majesty's Government. No decisions have been taken on this matter, however, and we cannot yet say whether or not the United Kingdom representative on the Security Council will be authorised to take part in discussing proposals for such a force.

In the Military Staff Committee, ~~however,~~ the problem is rather different. Since this is an advisory body, and the United Kingdom representative would have access to more adequate information than ^{could} ~~can~~ be made available to his colleagues, ~~but~~ it would seem unreasonable to preclude him from taking part in the Committee's technical discussions. We consider, therefore, that it may be useful to examine the questions raised in telegram No. MSC 45 from New York. On the specified points referred to us in your letter we suggest the following considerations:

a) The responsibilities of an international force would presumably be defined

/ by

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

by the resolution of the Security Council which established it. The problems arising on Palestine's present international frontiers would differ according to whether, under the partition plan, the frontier in question was that of the Arab or ^{of} the Jewish State. It is unlikely that any complications calling for international intervention would arise on the frontiers between the Arab State and its Arab neighbours. The Jewish State would have frontiers with Lebanon, Syria, Transjordan and Egypt. The presence of an international force might make it less likely that any of these ^{neighbouring} States would openly violate the frontiers. But it would not diminish the hostility felt towards the Jewish State in all the Arab countries, and might in fact stimulate it, so that there would be constant attempts to send in volunteers and military equipment.

b) This seems to be a technical question on which the Foreign Office cannot usefully offer advice. All that we can say is that resistance ^{would} ~~will~~ come from the Arab side, and that on past experience it seems probable that the Arabs would operate in fairly small contingents which would have as their principal objectives the liquidation of isolated Jewish settlements and the sabotage of communications.

c) Jewish immigration would presumably be regulated by the authorities of the Jewish State, which would not be able to deny the right of entry to any Jew arriving in Palestine waters. Consequently the problem of illegal immigration would no longer arise.

23rd January, 1948.

H. BEZLEY.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Jan 27

I think this will be the end of the M.S.C. Could Minister P.T. 16. 275612 see?

56

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE						Reference:- FO 371/68529	COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON
1	2	3	4	5	6		
	1			2			

13

GP- Feb 210

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE									
1	2	3	4	5	6				
1		2							
<i>Ref: 10001001 -</i> FO 371 68529									
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON									

Fair draft
 sent to M. J. Slab
 Eastern Dept. 7/12/57
 AD Montague
 The M/S agrees that
 this should now go to the
 Sps. it would like to
 see it again in its
 form.
 Fair draft
 M. J.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE											
1	2	3	4	5	6						
1	2	3	4	5	6						
Reference -											
FO 371 / 68529											
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON											

Registry
No.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft. Minute

Secretary of State.

from
Sir Orme Sargent.

British participation in the Military Staff
Committee discussions on Palestine.

A telegram has been received from the British representatives on the Military Staff Committee of the United Nations suggesting that when the question of an international force for Palestine is discussed in the Security Council, the Military Staff Committee will probably be asked for advice on ^{by the Council} size and composition of the force which would be required. A decision is required whether the British Representatives should take part in discussions on this subject or not. It has been impossible to reach agreement between all those concerned in the Foreign Office and the matter is therefore submitted for the Secretary of State's decision.

The arguments for our participation are:-

(a) The Military Staff Committee is an important and integral part of the United Nations Organisation. Unless it can be made to function effectively a large part of the Organisation's purpose will not have been realised.

(b) The Military Staff Committee has failed to develop fully its functions as prescribed by the Charter, hitherto ~~been prevented from functioning by~~ largely owing to Russian obstruction and non-cooperation.

(c) ^{The Russians} ~~We~~ have, in particular, ^{been consistently} ~~objected in~~ ^{obstructive where} the past to arguments used by the Russians that they would not consider ^{under consideration} action by the Military Staff Committee which did not fit in with their own plans. If we now adopted a similar attitude we should ^{be placing a further serious} ~~no longer be able to object~~ ^{obstacle in the way of any} to Russian obstruction and the last possibility of making the Military Staff Committee effective ^{would/}

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(23054) W114006/117 75,000 6/47 A & E.V. Ltd. Gp. 685

many thanks. I have
suggested some changes. I
hope it will be submitted
for the Minister of State.
R. J. 11.2

one of the main
by the purpose
purpose is
advising the
Security Council
in matters of the
kind now in
question.

Sir Orme Sargent
12.7.50.

In submitting
this to the S/S I would
propose to say that
personally I am
against participation

58

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	1				
		2			

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1			2		

Reference: -

FO 371 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

2. I wonder if
this is not rather
an overstatement.
R
I have tried it last
frs

59

he is a
down

id taking part in implementing the plan.
 Affixed - I think!
 Approved - I think!
 Presumably we will
 have a clean cut
 have a clean copy
 for the S/S, I'll have with me.
 for the S/S and I'll have another work
 for the 16

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

60

British participation in the Military Staff
Committee discussions on Palestine.

A telegram has been received from the British representatives on the Military Staff Committee of the United Nations suggesting that when the question of an international force for Palestine is discussed in the Security Council, the Military Staff Committee will probably be asked by the Council for advice on the size and composition of the force which would be required. A decision is required whether the British Representatives should take part in discussions on this subject or not. It has been impossible to reach agreement between all those concerned in the Foreign Office and the matter is therefore submitted for the Secretary of State's decision.

The arguments for our participation are:-

(a) The Military Staff Committee is an important and integral part of the United Nations Organisation, one of whose main functions is to advise the Security Council in matters of the kind now in question. Unless it can be made to function effectively a large part of the Organisation's purpose will not have been realised.

(b) The Military Staff Committee ^{hitherto} has failed to develop fully its functions as prescribed by the Charter, largely owing to Russian obstruction and non-co-operation.

(c) The Russians have, in particular, been consistently obstructive where action under consideration by the Military Staff Committee did not fit in with their/

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

their own plans. If we now adopted a similar attitude we should be placing a further serious obstacle in the way of any possibility of making the Military Staff Committee effective. The result on the whole of the United Nations Organisation might be grave.

(d) We are the only people who could give effective advice on the Military Staff Committee about the size and composition of the force required for Palestine and it would be essential for us to give this advice in order to prevent the adoption of entirely unrealistic proposals.

(e) The giving of advice on this subject would not commit us for or against the decision of principle whether an international force should be sent.

(f) We have, throughout the Assembly discussions, given the various committees factual information based on our peculiar knowledge of Palestine. It would only be logical that we should do the same for the Military Staff Committee.

The arguments against our participation are as follows:-

(1) We have definitely said that we will not take part in collective enforcement action by the Security Council. Any co-operation by us in the Military Staff Committee on this subject would certainly be represented throughout the Middle East as helping the United Nations to suppress the Arabs.

(2) It has been decided that we shall abstain from voting in the Security Council if the question of an international force for Palestine is discussed there.

The/

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

61

The only logical extension of this attitude would be to abstain from discussions on the same subject in the Military Staff Committee.

(3) Our abstention in the Military Staff Committee would not set a precedent for similar action by the Russians, etc., since Palestine is a quite peculiar case in which we are laying down all our responsibility.

(4) If we participated at all in the Military Staff Committee discussions, we should be bound, owing to our experience of the problem, to play the predominant part so that any plan which emerged might very likely become known as the British Plan. This would not only increase the unfavourable repercussions throughout the Military Staff Committee but would also make it more difficult for us to avoid taking part in implementing the plan.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

Reference:-
FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Mr. Butler

62

SECRETARY OF STATE

I submit herewith a paper on the question whether or not the British representative on the Military Staff Committee should take part in discussing the composition of an international force for Palestine if the Committee is asked by the Security Council to advise on this matter.

Personally I would be in favour of our representative taking no part in any such discussion at the Military Staff Committee.

O. G. Sargent

17th February 1948.

See Sargent's letter to Foreign Secretary dated 17th Feb. 1948. It is in the Committee's hands and is the Committee's decision.

Minister of State

I, having discussed the subject, come down in favour of taking part. On position is clear & definite. To refuse participation, particularly with our present knowledge would be even less defensible than the previous attitude of the Soviet delegation. H. G. S. 17 Feb. 1948.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
2					

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

"I, having discussed the subject, come down in favour of taking part. Our position is plain and honest. To refuse participation, particularly with our peculiar knowledge, would be even less defensible than the previous attitude of the Soviet Delegation."

H.McN. February 17th.

Please see Sol. S's minutes.

Ed. Brown. 1/17/2

Eastern Dept.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	

Reference:-
FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

63

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE										
1	2	3	4	5	6					
		1				2				

FO 371 / 68529

REFERENCE NO. -
 COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

10

100

their/

(d) We are the only people who could give effective advice on the Military Staff Committee about the size and composition of the force required for Palestine and it would be essential for us to give this advice in order to prevent the adoption of entirely unrealistic proposals.

(f) We have, throughout the Assembly discussions, given the various committees factual information based on our peculiar knowledge of Palestine. It would only be logical that we should do the same for the Military Staff Committee.

(1) We have definitely said that we will not take part in collective enforcement action by the Security Council. Any co-operation by us in the Military Staff Committee on this subject would certainly be represented throughout the Middle East as helping the United Nations to suppress the Arabs.

The/

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference: **FO 371/68529**

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

64

(4) If we participated at all in the Military Staff Committee discussions, we should be bound, owing to our experience of the problem, to play the predominant part so that any plan which emerged might very likely become known as the British Plan. This would not only increase the unfavourable repercussions throughout the Military Staff Committee but would also make it more difficult for us to avoid taking part in implementing the plan.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(33054) WL14806/147 75,000 6/47 A.S.E.V.Ltd. Cp.685

Registry
No. E.930/4/G

Top Secret.
~~SECRET~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HB

Draft. letter to

Lt.-Col P.R.M.
Waterfield, M.B.E
Ministry of
Defence.

(From Mr. Beeley)

H. Beeley 24/2

B. Beeley 24/2

OUT FILE

65

RECEIVED
15 FEB 1948
1252
1252

FOREIGN OFFICE,

S.W.1.

25 February, 1948.

I am sorry that it has taken so long to

answer your top secret letter No.93/20/1/8 of the 20th January, in which you asked a number of questions arising from the possibility that the Security Council may seek the advice of the Military Staff Committee on the subject of international military action in Palestine. These questions are closely related to important issues of policy and it has consequently not been possible to arrive at a decision upon them sooner.

As you are aware, a Cabinet decision was taken on the 5th February to the effect that the U.K. Delegation in the Security Council should express no opinion on any proposals which might be made for an international force to impose partition in Palestine and that they should abstain from using their vote on this issue.

It would seem to be a corollary of this attitude that we should also abstain from taking any part in formulating the ^{advice} ~~views~~ to be given by the Military Staff Committee on the technical aspects of a proposed international force for use in Palestine. ^{Since} ~~Thus~~, however, the U.K. Representative would have access to more adequate information than ^{could} ~~can~~ be available to his colleagues, it would seem unreasonable to preclude him from making contributions of a purely factual character to the Committee's technical discussion. The Foreign Secretary, /therefore,

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
Reference -					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

In the light of this conclusion I think you will agree that no useful purpose would be served by examining the questions raised in Telegram No. MSC.44 from New York.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

OUT FILE

66

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1.

25th February, 1948.

(P 930/4/G)
TOP SECRET

Dear Waterfield,

I am sorry that it has taken so long to answer your top secret letter No. 93/20/1/8 of the 20th January, in which you asked a number of questions arising from the possibility that the Security Council may seek the advice of the Military Staff Committee on the subject of international military action in Palestine. These questions are closely related to important issues of policy and it has consequently not been possible to arrive at a decision upon them sooner.

As you are aware, a Cabinet decision was taken on the 5th February to the effect that the United Kingdom Delegation in the Security Council should express no opinion on any proposals which might be made for an international force to insure partition in Palestine and that they should abstain from using their vote on this issue.

It would seem to be a corollary of this attitude that we should also abstain from taking any part in formulating the advice to be given by the Military Staff Committee on the technical aspects of a proposed international force for use in Palestine. Since, however, the United Kingdom Representative would have access to more adequate information than could be available to his colleagues, it would seem unreasonable to preclude him from making contributions of a purely factual character to the Committee's

technical

Lieutenant-Colonel
R. M. Waterfield, M.B.E.,
Ministry of Defence.

7

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

technical discussion. The Foreign Secretary, therefore, considers that the British representative should confine himself to answering requests for information in so far as this is compatible with our normal security requirements.

In the light of this conclusion I think you will agree that no useful purpose would be served by examining the questions raised in telegram No. 450.44 from New York.

Yours sincerely
Sd.

(H. Beeley)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

Reference -
FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

*This shd. now
be filed (I suppose
E. Dept. have
a copy)*

IMPORTANT *Pr. 8.3* *Head of UN (P.C.)*

TOP SECRET CYPHER TELEGRAM *67*

TOP SECRET CYPHER TELEGRAM

From: Foreign Office.

To: United Kingdom Delegation,
New York.

C.O.S.(NY)26
T.O.O.021700Z
T.O.D.030340Z

COS(NY) 26

2nd March, 1948

For U.K. representatives from Chiefs of Staff.
Reference your MSC 45.

1. You will have seen Cabinet decision notified to U.K. Delegation in Foreign Office telegram 543 of 7th February that U.K. Delegation should express no opinion on any proposals which might be made in the Security Council for an international Force to impose partition in Palestine and that they should abstain from voting on this issue.

2. In conformity with this attitude you should refrain from taking part in formulating advice on the technical aspects of an international Force for use in Palestine in the event of this question being referred to the MSC. It would be unreasonable, however, to refuse requests from your colleagues for purely factual information on Palestine which they may require during their discussions. You should answer such requests insofar as this is compatible with security considerations.

3. You will no doubt refer to us for any information not readily available in New York.

CIRCULATION

D.C.O.R.
Foreign Office.
First Sea Lord.
Message Control W.O.
Registry Telegrams, A.M.
Chief of Combined Ops. Staff.
S/S for Colonies.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE									
1	2	3	4	5	6				
1		2							
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> Reference:- FO 371/68529 </div> <div> COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON </div> </div>									

39

1948

E

E 933

22 JAN 1948

PALE

Registry
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received

in Registry

E933/4/31

UK 201

New York.

162

21 Jan

22 -

Information for Adulter Commission

Transmit list of points, on which
Adulter Commission has asked information,
to be supplied as soon as possible.

Last Paper.

970

(Minutes.)

References.

In P.P. Police Act 196 27/1

H.B. 23/1

H.B. 37

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

9. Walkeran 80
'evered but off

M.I. 3a

M04

Admty

P.W.

Jan 22 on,
E933(Action
completed.)

95/25/1

(Index)

29/4/46

Next Paper.

935

30471 F.O.P

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

69
[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on] Cypher/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 162.

D. 8.35 p.m. 21st January 1948.
R. 3.05 a.m. 22nd January 1948. (21 JAN '48)

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Addressed to High Commissioner Jerusalem telegram No. 19 of 21st January, repeated to Foreign Office and saving to Washington.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher-Cooke.

[Begins]

Following information required for Commission as soon as possible:-

1. The number of (A) Arabs and (B) Jews who have deserted from the Palestine Police since 29th November and the number of arms they took with them. Similar figures in respect of desertions from Transjordan Frontier Force would also be useful.

2. Exact relationship between Palestine Police and (A) Mishmar (B) Arab Municipal Police (C) Haganah.

3. Details of numbers, organisation and source of arms in respect of (A) and (B) of paragraph 2 with statement as to who pays them in each case.

4. Question regarding Haganah arose from statement that Liaison officers have been appointed between police and Haganah. Commission found it difficult to understand how Government could appoint Liaison Officers to an organisation that it does not (repeat not) recognise.

5. Reference to shrapnel wounds in an incident report was also not understood. Is any information available as to the extent to which mortars or heavier weapons have been used?

6. It is understood that Jewish aircraft have been used to drop messages and supplies to outlying settlements but should be grateful for confirmation that these aircraft are not (repeat not) armed. [Ends].

Foreign Office please pass to Colonial Office for Martin and to Jerusalem.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for Mr. Martin and repetition to Jerusalem]

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

70

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 27th January, 1948.

R. 27th " " 22.15 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 196 Secret.

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated to H.M. Ambassador Washington, No. 40
your telegram No. 225 (please pass on
UKDEL as No. 213).

For Fletcher-Cook from Gurney. Begins.

Your telegram No. 19.

Following are replies to your questions:
Paragraph 1.

Desertions.

(a) Arab. 372, of whom 2 are regular Police,
210 temporary additional Police, 152 supernumerary Police
employed by H.M. Forces, 8 supernumerary Police privately
employed. They took 471 rifles, 3 Bren, 1 T.S.M.G.,
19 grenades, 5 revolvers, 5 Verrey pistols, 104 Verrey
cartridges and 12,502 rounds of ammunition.

(b) Jews. Nil.

(c) Trans-Jordan Frontier Force 70 men. 67 rifles,
38 automatic weapons, 3 pistols.

Paragraph 2.

(a) Mishmar. A body raised by the Jewish Agency with
Government approval and operating only in Tel Aviv, Ramat
Gan, Petah Tikva area, from which British and Arab Police
have been withdrawn. Permission to raise this Force was
granted on the express understanding that it was to be used
for maintaining law and order within (group omitted) and
preventing breaches of peace by members of the Jewish
community, and particularly dissident groups. The Mishmar
is required to keep in touch with regular Jewish Police who
remain in the area and who continue to function in the
normal way within the framework of Palestine Police under
the Inspector General.

(b) Arab Municipal Police. These Forces are being
raised in purely Arab areas on the basis of 50% T.A.C.S.
and 50% Special Constables provided by municipal and local
councils concerned. They work under the direct control of
regular Police formations in their respective Police districts
and are being armed with the object of assisting the regular
Police in maintaining law and order now, and of remaining
after our withdrawal as an organisation capable of enforcing
order and, if necessary, defending the towns and villages
against attack.

(c)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371 / 68529					
<small>COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON</small>					

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

(c) Haganah armaments. The Haganah is an organisation of the Jewish Agency which is not legally recognised. Unarmed members, however, generally perform watch and ward duties in Jewish areas. These function on the basis that it is an elementary right of citizens to protect themselves. Where any private organisation, including Haganah acts offensively or its members are found in possession of unlicensed firearms, they are naturally dealt with according to law.

To co-ordinate watch and ward duties carried out by unarmed Jewish citizens, certain persons who are known to be members of the Haganah have been recognised and these, for want of a better term, are known as liaison officers. Similarly, on the Arab side, contact is maintained with members or representatives of the Arab National Committees.

Paragraph 3.

(a) Details of organisation of Mishmar have been left to the Jewish Agency provided that the overriding principle is maintained that they work in close co-operation with the local (Jewish) regular Police. The body numbers not more than 500, and is entirely paid by the Jewish Agency also responsible for finding arms. Government part is limited to issue of firearm licences up to an approved limit and valid only within Mishmar area.

(b) Arab Municipal Police are still in early stages of formation and accurate figures of strength cannot be given at present. In Jaffa 300 men have been enrolled and in Jerusalem 300 each Arabs and Jews are contemplated. Elsewhere, governing principle is that personnel should not exceed 100 in larger towns such as Nablus, Hebron, Gaza and 50 in such places as Tulkarm, Beisan, Jenin. Enrolment of Special Constables for protection of villages on a voluntary unpaid basis is contemplated at a later stage. Municipal Forces are made up as to half by T.A.C.S., paid by Government, and half Special Constables paid by Municipal or Local Council concerned. Similar arms are provided by the Government for half of each force, the balance being found by Municipal or Local Council.

Paragraph 5. In the majority of cases shrapnel wounds have been caused by various types of bombs and grenades. It is known, however, that the Jews have a considerable number of mortars and their use has been verified on three different occasions this month. Unexploded two-inch mortar bombs were found by the Security Force in (Jewish) houses or areas in Jerusalem on 3rd January and 14th January, and in Jaffa/Tel Aviv on 21st January. We have no reason to suppose that Jews have any heavier armaments, though the possibility of further use of barrel bombs such as that which wrecked Jaffa Police Headquarters cannot be excluded. It is suspected that Arabs may have a limited number of French mortars.

Paragraph 6. Jewish aircraft have been used for the purpose you mention. We have no reason to suppose at present that these aircraft are armed (group omitted) on one occasion recently a Royal Air Force pilot alleged

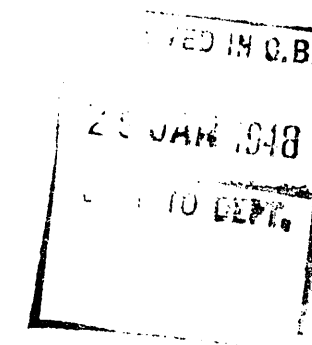
/ther

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">FO</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">371 / 68529</div>					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

that he had been fired upon by a Jewish aircraft, but subsequent examination of the machine aroused considerable doubt that this could have happened, and the pilot later admitted that he might have been mistaken. Ends.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. Beeley.
War Office (M.O.4.) - Lt. Col. M.M. Charteris.



PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

AMENDED COPY (correction & underlined, words 'group omitted'
Cypher (O.T.P.) deleted at /, both on 2nd page)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 27th January, 1948.
R. 27th " " 22.15 hrs.

IMMEDIATE
No. 196 Secret.

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated to H.M. Ambassador Washington, No. 40
your telegram No. 225 (please pass to
UKDEL as No. 213).

For Fletcher-Cook from Gurney. Begins.

Your telegram No. 19.

Following are replies to your questions:
Paragraph 1.

Desertions.

(a) Arab. 372, of whom 2 are regular Police,
210 temporary additional Police, 152 supernumerary Police
employed by H.M. Forces, 8 supernumerary Police privately
employed. They took 471 rifles, 3 Bren, 1 T.S.M.G.,
19 grenades, 5 revolvers, 5 Versey pistols, 104 Versey
cartridges and 12,502 rounds of ammunition.

(b) Jews. Nil.

(c) Trans-Jordan Frontier Force 70 men, 67 rifles,
38 automatic weapons, 3 pistols.

Paragraph 2.

(a) Mishmar. A body raised by the Jewish Agency with
Government approval and operating only in Tel Aviv, Ramat
Gan, Petah Tikvah area, from which British and Arab Police
have been withdrawn. Permission to raise this Force was
granted on the express understanding that it was to be used
for maintaining law and order within (group omitted) and
preventing breaches of peace by members of the Jewish
community, and particularly dissident groups. The Mishmar
is required to keep in touch with regular Jewish Police who
remain in the area and who continue to function in the
normal way within the framework of Palestine Police under
the Inspector General.

(b) Arab Municipal Police. These Forces are being
raised in purely Arab areas on the basis of 50% T.A.C.S.
and 50% Special Constables provided by municipal and local
councils concerned. They work under the direct control of
regular Police formations in their respective Police districts
and are being armed with the object of assisting the regular
Police in maintaining law and order now, and of remaining
after our withdrawal as an organisation capable of enforcing
order and, if necessary, defending the towns and villages
against attack.

/(c)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference -					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

RECEIVED IN
3 FEB 1948
SENT TO

(c) Haganah armaments. The Haganah is an organisation of the Jewish Agency which is not legally recognised. Unarmed members, however, generally perform watch and ward duties in Jewish areas. Permitted to function on the basis that it is an elementary right of citizens to protect themselves. Where any private organisation, including Haganah acts offensively or its members are found in possession of unlicensed firearms, they are naturally dealt with according to law.

To co-ordinate watch and ward duties carried out by unarmed Jewish citizens, certain persons who are known to be members of the Haganah have been recognised and these, for want of a better term, are known as liaison officers. Similarly, on the Arab side, contact is maintained with members or representatives of the Arab National Committees.

Paragraph 3.

(a) Details of organisation of Mishmar have been left to the Jewish Agency provided that the overriding principle is maintained that they work in close co-operation with the local (Jewish) regular Police. The body numbers not more than 500, and is entirely paid by the Jewish Agency also responsible for finding arms. Government part is limited to issue of firearm licences up to an approved limit and valid only within Mishmar area.

(b) Arab Municipal Police are still in early stages of formation and accurate figures of strength cannot be given at present. In Jaffa, 300 men have been enrolled and in Jerusalem 300 each Arabs and Jews are contemplated. Elsewhere, governing principle is that personnel should not exceed 100 in larger towns such as Nablus, Hebron, Gaza and 50 in such places as Tulkarm, Beisan, Jenin. Enrolment of Special Constables for protection of villages on a voluntary unpaid basis is contemplated at a later stage. Municipal Forces are made up as to half by T.A.C.S., paid by Government, and half Special Constables paid by Municipal or Local Council concerned. Similar arms are provided by the Government for half of each force, the balance being found by Municipal or Local Council.

Paragraph 5. In the majority of cases shrapnel wounds have been caused by various types of bombs and grenades. It is known, however, that the Jews have a considerable number of mortars and their use has been verified on three different occasions this month. Unexploded two-inch mortar bombs were found by the Security Force in (Jewish) houses or areas in Jerusalem on 3rd January and 11th January, and in Jaffa/Tel Aviv on 21st January. We have no reason to suppose that Jews have any heavier armaments, though the possibility of further use of barrel bombs such as that which wrecked Haifa Police Headquarters cannot be excluded. It is suspected that Arabs may have a limited number of French mortars.

Paragraph 6. Jewish aircraft have been used for the purpose you mention. We have no reason to suppose at present that these aircraft are armed. On one occasion recently a Royal Air Force pilot alleged

/that

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference -					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

73
INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

that he had been fired upon by a Jewish aircraft, but subsequent examination of the machine aroused considerable doubt that this could have happened, and the pilot later admitted that he might have been mistaken. Ends.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. Bealey.
War Office (M.O.4.) - Lt. Col. H.M. Charteris.

✱ = Corrections received 30th January.

1
2
3
4
5
6

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E

E 935

74

1948

PALESTINE

22 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

E935/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

(UK) 1201

No.

New York.

Dated

11/1

Received

in Registry

21.5.48

22 -

Relevant Committee, British Foreign Office
 After New York 11/122 (E935/4/31) received
 four questions. Para 1, one question exactly as received
 21 Jan. Sent to follow.
 Another was received. The staff would not
 be able to find out if the young man had been
 been in Palestine. The question for reply.
 The reply is being prepared. It will be sent
 to the young man's father in 4/1/48.

Last Paper.

933

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. Walker 80
 1. Enclosed P.O. off.
 14.1.34
 14.10.44
 Adm. 1/4
 O.M.
 Jan 22

rel. 198. Walker 80
 from H. Beeley
 24.1.48 P.T.O.

(Action
completed.)

(Ind.)

Next Paper.

(1633)

950

(Minutes.)

Draft submitted.

H. Beeley 231

Now see Jerusalem telegram
 no. 195 to New York (copy attached) and
 consequent redraft. 178 to 22.

H. Beeley 261

B.A.B. Brown

Tel. initials of Mr. Wright
 and send.

26.1

H.B. 261

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371/68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Hel New York 359
Rptd w/ Jan 1047
26 Jan,

8 Whatherson BV
1 Lerman, Baboff
M.I. 3a
W104
Admky
Q M

Jan 29
On E1166

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

Reference:-
FO 371 / 68529

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Registry
No.

~~SECRET~~
Secret.
~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

Draft.
NEW YORK.

Telegram.

No.

(Date)

Repeat to :—

Jerusalem,
Washington.

~~Ex-Clas~~
~~Code~~
Cypher.

Distribution :—

World Organisation

Copies to :—

F. O.,

23rd January, 1948.

Despatched

M.

IMMEDIATE
SECRET
GIANT

Addressed to ^{UK Delegation} New York [No.]

repeated for information to Jerusalem and
Washington.

Your telegrams No. 161 and 166
paragraphs 6.

We do not think there is anything to add
to the arguments which you have already used in
explaining why we cannot evacuate a
seaport by the 1st February. In your note
you will no doubt say that the mandatory
power has "used its best endeavours" in the
sense that it has given the most careful
consideration to the possibility of
implementing this part of the Assembly's
resolution. The words "shall be evacuated"
might be interpreted in two ways, as meaning
either that a seaport and its hinterland
should be excluded from the area administered
under the mandate or that, while remaining under the
general control of the mandatory administra-
tion, they should be exempted from the
operation of its immigration policy. On the
first interpretation, His Majesty's
Government have decided that it is impossible
for them to lay down the mandate piecemeal.
On the second, they are in effect being
asked to make a substantial change in their
own immigration policy. They are satisfied
/ that

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(14556) Wt. 49897-140 100m 347 G.S.S. Cp 629

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

that such a change would gravely affect the security situation in Palestine and they are not prepared to take this responsibility.

2. There is no objection in principle to officials of the United Nations Commission arriving in Palestine at a fairly early date, ~~But~~ you should avoid committing us to any general authorisation of such arrivals, and should ensure that you are consulted in each instance. It seems possible, from your telegram No. 153, paragraph 8, that the Commission and the Jewish Agency may be concerting some arrangements of which we are not fully informed. We should ^{wish} also to assure ourselves that the individual officers nominated in accordance with the proposal mentioned in paragraph 6 (b) of your telegram No. 166 are acceptable, and that it would be possible for the High Commissioner to permit them to exercise the functions assigned to them. In general it should be made clear that the co-operation of the Palestine Government with any officials appointed by the Commission must be limited by the overriding necessity of maintaining the greatest possible measure of security and ensuring the smooth operation of the British withdrawal. The Commission must also understand that, while the Palestine Government will do its best to ensure the security of ~~the~~ ^{its} officers, it cannot accept any responsibility of this kind if they engage in activities to which it has not given its approval in advance.

/ 3.

Let it be a case where all is considered to be difficult for us.

Otherwise it is doubtful if the High Commissioner would give them adequate protection.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.A.S.

but it will be open to any who so wish to volunteer for service with the Commission if they wished to terminate their present appointments or contracts.

3. ~~it will not be possible for British personnel to be seconded to the service of the Commission,~~^{cannot}↑

4. There is no objection to the early arrival in Palestine of members of the Secretariat entrusted with the task of making arrangements for the Commission's arrival.

5. ~~Paragraph 3.~~ Your telegram no 166. Commenced the Palestine Office would prefer that papers supplied to Canada should be supplied also to Australia, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa. Unless you have any special reason to the contrary, please proceed accordingly. With regard to consultation with India and Pakistan, you should consult a member of the C.R.A., who is in New York.

76

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/CP

SECRET (When in use only)

FOR THE USE OF THE SECRETARY

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 161

D. 8.49 p.m. 21st January, 1948.
R. 2.40 a.m. 22nd January, 1948.

21st January, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem
Washingtonaving

SECRET
SECRET
SECRET

E 1030

(22 JAN 1948)

Addressed Foreign Office No. 161 21st January
repeated Jerusalem andaving to Washington.

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Bradford
Smith.

Answers to the four questions in paragraph 1 of my
telegram No. 122 were given orally to Commission this
afternoon with indication that there was no objection to
their general lines becoming public. Text follows by bag.

2. Commission appeared to accept position that if
His Majesty's Government after full consideration and
"using its best endeavours" had decided th t release of a
seaport and hinterland was not possible there was nothing
more to be said. Some discussion centred, however, round
reasons for His Majesty's Government's inability to comply
with this recommendation and after mention of the obvious
point th t compliance would produce serious deterioration
of security situation undertaking was given to supply
Commission with note on His Majesty's Government's reasons.
Grateful for your views as to any additional reasons besides
security and necessity to maintain mandatory administration
over the whole area of Palestine.

2.[sic] Question was also raised whether His Majesty's
Government would object to officials of Commission going
out to Palestine as soon as possible. Answer was given
th t there was no objection in principle but th t instruc-
tions must be sought. Please telegraph guidance.
Background is that Jewish Agency have taken the line that
His Majesty's Government has been deliberately overstating
seriousness of security situation in order to stave off
arrival of Commission in Palestine. Commission may have
thought our apparent willingness to concede earlier arrival
of officials conformed with th t interpretation.

3. There was some pressure th t we should begin
answering questions in my telegram No. 142 as early as
possible.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my tele-
gram No. 20.

[Advance copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial
Office for repetition to Jerusalem and copy sent
to Colonial Office for Mr. Martin.]

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
2					
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

INDEXED 78

78



FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 24th January, 1948.
R. 24th " " 00.35 hrs.

IMPORTANT

No. 178 Secret.

Addressed U.K. Delegation New York No. 195
(Washington please pass).

Repeated S. of S.
Washington, No. 35.

Your telegram No. 277, paragraph 7.

It would be helpful from all points of view (and particularly in countering charges of obstruction which Commission seem likely to make as cover for their possible failure) if Bunche or a senior member of his staff could come here early and see the situation for himself and discuss it with us. He would then have a better idea of what is involved in (b) and (c) of paragraph 6 of your telegram.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE						<i>Reference:-</i> FO 371/68529	COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1				2			

79

CONCLUSIONS

/ 02

(sgd) H.BEELEY.

A. C. Matheson, Esq.,
Colonial Office.

FO 371 / 68529

Registry
No. E 935/4/31

~~TOP SECRET~~
Secret.
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~RESTRICTED~~
~~SECRET~~

Draft.
U.K. Delegation
New York.

Telegram

No. 359

(Date) 26 Jan

Repeat to :-

Jerusalem C.O.
Washington. 1047

*by and to C.O.
for information*

~~Encl.~~
~~Cyph.~~
Cypher.

Distribution :-
World
Organisation.

Copies to :-

IMMEDIATE
SECRET
GIANT

26th January, 1949

Despatched

M.

Addressed to U.K. Delegation New York
No. 359 of 26 Jan repeated for information to
Jerusalem and Washington.

Your telegrams No. 161 and 166 paragraphs
3 and 6.

We do not think there is anything to add
to the arguments which you have already used in
explaining why we cannot evacuate a seaport
by the 1st February. In your note you will no
doubt say that the mandatory power has "used
its best endeavours" in the sense that it has
given the most careful consideration to the
possibility of implementing this part of the
Assembly's resolution. The words "shall be
evacuated" might be interpreted in two ways,
as meaning either that a seaport and its
hinterland should be excluded from the area
administered under the mandate or that, while
remaining under the general control of the
mandatory administration, they should be
exempted from the operation of its immigration
policy. On the first interpretation, His
Majesty's Government have decided that it is
impossible for them to lay down the mandate
piecemeal. On the second, they are in effect
being asked to make a substantial change in
their own immigration policy. They are
satisfied that such a change would gravely

affect/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(13556) Wt. 4.9807-140 100m 347 G.S.S. Gp 620

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

affect the security situation in Palestine and they are not prepared to take this responsibility.

2. Your telegram No. 166 paragraph 6 (b) and (c). You will now have received Jerusalem telegram No. 195, suggesting that the Commission should send a senior member of its staff to Palestine to discuss these questions on the spot. We agree that this would be the best procedure and you should inform Bunche accordingly.

3. Your telegram No. 166 paragraph 6 (a), British personnel cannot be seconded to the service of the Commission, but it will be open to any who so wish to volunteer for service with the Commission if they intend to terminate their present appointments or contracts.

4. Your telegram No. 166 paragraph 3. Commonwealth Relations Office would prefer that papers supplied to Canada should be supplied also to Australia, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa. Unless you have any special reason to the contrary, please proceed accordingly. With regard to consultation with India and Pakistan, you should consult CURSON of the C.R.O. who is in New York.

WLS
26.1

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				
FO 371 / 68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

81
END

Cypher/OTP
SECRET
E.935/4/31

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 359

D. 12.10 a.m. 27th January, 1948

26th January, 1948
Repeated Jerusalem
Washington No. 1047

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

GLANT

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York
telegram No. 359 of 26th January repeated for information
to Jerusalem and Washington.

Your telegrams Nos. 161 and 166 paragraphs 3 and 6.

We do not think there is anything to add to the arguments which you have already used in explaining why we cannot evacuate a seaport by the 1st February. In your note you will no doubt say that the mandatory power has "used its best endeavours" in the sense that it has given the most careful consideration to the possibility of implementing this part of the Assembly's resolution. The words "shall be evacuated" might be interpreted in two ways, as meaning either that a seaport and its hinterland should be excluded from the area administered under the mandate or that, while remaining under the general control of the mandatory administration, they should be exempted from the operation of its immigration policy. On the first interpretation, His Majesty's Government have decided that it is impossible for them to lay down the mandate piecemeal. On the second, they are in effect being asked to make a substantial change in their own immigration policy. They are satisfied that such a change would gravely affect the security situation in Palestine and they are not prepared to take this responsibility.

2. Your telegram No. 166 paragraph 6 (b) and (c). You will now have received Jerusalem telegram No. 195, suggesting that the Commission should send a senior member of its staff to Palestine to discuss these questions on the spot. We agree that this would be the best procedure and you should inform Bunche accordingly.

3. Your telegram No. 166 paragraph 6 (a), British personnel cannot be seconded to the service of the Commission, but it will be open to any who so wish to volunteer for service with the Commission if they intend to terminate their present appointments or contracts.

4. Your telegram No. 166 paragraph 3. Commonwealth Relations Office would prefer that papers supplied to Canada should be supplied also to Australia, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa. Unless you have any special reason to the contrary, please proceed accordingly. With regard to consultation with India and Pakistan, you should consult Curson of the C.R.O. who is in New York.

uuuuu

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
FO 371/68529					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					